

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 PM-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10

OMB-01 RSR-01 /082 W

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R 200950 Z APR 73 ZBJ

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO CINCPAC CAMP H M SMITH HI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3305

CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JAPAN

COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JAPAN

COMSVNTHFLT YOKOSUKA JAPAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4915

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR PINT OEXC JA US

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE DIET MEMBER WATANABE REACTION TO CINCPAC
BRIEFING

1. LOWER HOUSE MEMBER ICHIRO WATANABE (KOMEITO) ON RETURN FROM IV GRANT VISIT TO US, INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE DEEPLY APPRECIATED BRIEFING AND INFORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS AT CINCPAC, APRIL 9. EMBASSY EXPRESSES FULLEST APPRECIATION FOR PRODUCTIVE EFFORT BY ALL CONCERNED AT CINCPAC TO INCREASE WATANABE' S UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT US THINKING ON REGIONAL SECURITY.

2. WATANABE SAID THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH CINCPAC BRIEFING OFFICER STATEMENT THAT CARRIER MIDWAY MOVE TO YOKOSUKA SHOULD PROPERLY BE DESCRIBED AS OVERSEAS FAMILY RESIDENCE PROGRAM, NOT RPT NOT HOMEPORTING. HE COMMENTED THAT IMPROPER USE OF LATTER
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TERM BY MEDIA HAS INJECTED FALSE PREMISE INTO ARGUMENT ABOUT MIDWAY. HE EXPRESSED SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING OF RATIONALE TO LOCATE SOME FAMILIES OF MIDWAY CREW MEMBERS AT YOKOSUKA AS MORALE MEASURE REQUIRED BY TRANSITION TO ALL- VOLUNTEER FORCE. HOWEVER, FOR HIM MOST CONVINCING ARGUMENT THAT NAVY DOES NOT PLAN TO HOMEPORT MIDWAY AT YOKOSUKA WAS EXPLANATION THAT OPANATIONAL HEADQUARTERS FTW MIDWAY WILL REMAIN IN SAN DIEGO.

3. WATANABE ALSO SAID THAT HE PLANS TO USE LOWER HOUSE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SESSION APRIL 24 AS FORUM TO DISSEMINATE HIS CONCLUSION, BASED ON ABOVE, THAT US NAVY NOT PLANNING TO HOMEPORT MIDWAY AT YOKOSUKA. HE CONFIDENT THAT GOJ SPOKESMAN WILL CONFIRM THIS VIEW IN COMMITTEE.

4. WATANABE SAID THAT HE HOPES HIS CLARIFICATION OF PROPER USE OF TERMS WILL EMBARRASS JCP, WHOSE RULE IN LEADING LOCAL OPPOSITION TO MIDWAY MOVE RESTS IN PART ON FALSE PREMISE THAT CARRIER WILL BE HOMEPORTED.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: MARR, OEXC, PINT, JA, US
To: CINCPAC CAMP H M SMITH HI
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